



## Minutes

Thursday, December 11, 2014

### I. Welcome and Introductions

The December 11, 2014 meeting of the Education Telecommunications Council was held at Iowa Public Television, various ICN sites and via conference call. The following members were present at the meeting: **Kenneth Colwell**, IAICU; **Mary Gannon**, IASB; **Kent Johnson**, Regents; **Ellen Kabat-Lensch**, IACCT; **Sally Lindgren**, AEA Boards; **Carol Montz**, SAI; **Gwen Nagel**, DE; **Randy Richardson**, ISEA; **Terry Rinehart**, IPTV; and **Nancy Medima** for Kay Runge, DE/Libraries.

**Tom Kruse**, IAICU; **Lane Plugge**, AEA Boards; **Chet Rzonca**, Regents; **Mark White**, IACCT, and **Mary Wieser**, DE/CIANS were absent.

The following guests were also present at the meeting: **Mark Dayton** (filling in for Phil Groner) and **Lori Larsen**, ICN; **Pam Jacobs**, State E-rate Coordinator; **Twyla Vogel**, RTC 4 Coordinator; **Jan Robertson**, RTC 10 Coordinator; **Linda Abel**, RTC 15 Chairperson; and **Angi Hillers**, DE.

### II. Updates

#### A. ICN Update

##### 1) **MPEG Video Sunset Date Released** *Lori Larsen and Mark Dayton, ICN*

Lori Larsen and Mark Dayton reported that due to advancements in IP videoconferencing services, the ICN has announced an end-of-life date for MPEG videoconferencing service of June 30, 2018. After this date MPEG2 videoconferencing will no longer be offered or supported by the ICN. The ICN currently offers Video@LightSpeed IP videoconferencing services as a bridge and replacement for the MPEG2 platform. The ICN hopes that the early announcement date will allow its customers adequate time to transition to IP videoconferencing.

##### 2) **Broadband Matters Awareness Campaign** *Lori Larsen, ICN*

Lori Larsen announced the release of the ICN's Broadband Matters Awareness Campaign, which launches today. The purpose of the campaign is to generate and encourage conversation how to increase broadband access throughout the state. More information can be found at [broadbandmatters.com](http://broadbandmatters.com). Discussion regarding the campaign followed.

**B. Department of Education Update** *Ryan Wise, DE*

Ryan Wise reminded the group that Senate File 2347 last year appropriated the RTC funding to the DE for administration, as well as changing the reporting requirements from twice a year to once a year. The annual report is due July 31, 2015.

**III. Issues**

**A. RTC Vacancies** *Lori Larsen, ICN*

Lori Larsen has graciously provided continued assistance with RTC membership, and provided a brief update on RTC membership status. There are currently 11 vacancies. Lori provided a reminder that information regarding these vacancies is now contained on the DE's website, and the ICN continues to have a link to this information to assist with the transition as well. Lori suggested that all coordinators ensure that their membership lists are up-to-date, or that they work to get any vacancies filled to ensure a quorum can be met for voting purposes. She provided a reminder that she is available to provide assistance in filling these vacancies.

**B. USAC/E-rate Update/Changes** *Pam Jacobs, State E-rate Coordinator*

Pam Jacobs outlined the changes to the E-rate program which were the result of action taken by the Federal Communications Commission in July and December of 2014. The E-rate Modernization Orders focused the program on broadband and Internet with a phase-out of voice services. In addition, the FCC action resulted in redefining the urban/rural status for schools and the calculation of the discount percentage. (Although it was not known for certain what would happen with the FCC meeting on December 11 at the same time the ETC met, the FCC did vote to raise the E-rate cap by \$1.5 billion).

**IV. Miscellaneous**

**A. RTC Survey Design** *Ryan Wise, DE*

Ryan Wise presented information regarding a survey they would like to design to look at RTC funding usage. They hope to gain a sense from RTCs about how funding is allocated and being used. The desired outcome would be to compile suggestions on how to modernize funding allocation to match current needs, these suggestions would then go to the legislature for approval. Initially the RTCs will be asked to provide input regarding what to include in the survey.

Motion by Sally Lindgren to move forward to create the survey, second by Mary Gannon. Motion unanimously approved.

**B. Questions/Comments**

Ryan Wise thanked Lori for her continued assistance with filling RTC vacancies, as well as the transition of the ETC administration to the DE. Ryan also thanks the RTCs for their patience with the transition. Sally Lindgren thanked Pam Jacobs for providing the E-rate update, as well as her work to keep the field updated during this unusual year which has seen so many E-rate changes.

**V. Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was offered by Sally Lindgren and seconded by Gwen Nagel. The motion was unanimously approved and the December 11, 2014 meeting of the Education Telecommunications Council adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

The next scheduled meeting of the ETC is scheduled for Friday, May 15, 2015.